

## REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated April 13, 2007. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

### Status of the Claims

Claims 2, 4 and 39-41 are under consideration in this application. Claims 2, 4 and 39-41 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to correct formal errors and/or to better recite or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

### Prior Art Rejection

Claims 2, 4 and 39-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat. No. 6,903,794 to Fukuta et al. (hereinafter "Fukuta") in view of one of US Pat. No. 6,420,889 to Terada (hereinafter "Terada"), US Pat. No. 6,424,842 to Winstead (hereinafter "Winstead"), US Pat. No. 5,218,760 to Colton et al. (hereinafter "Colton"), and US Pub. No. 2003/0117543 of Chang (hereinafter "Chang"). Claims 2, 4 and 39-40 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat. No. 6,342,932 to Terao et al. (hereinafter "Terao") in view of one of Terada, Winstead, Colton, and Chang. These rejections have been carefully considered, but are most respectfully traversed, as more fully discussed below.

The **flat panel** display device (Fig. 22; pp. 19-20) of the invention (the elected embodiment depicted in Fig. 7; pp. 34-36), as now recited in claim 2, comprises: a display panel PNL which is shaped as a rectangular board, a frame member UFM different from the display panel PNL which is mounted on a back surface of the display panel PNL, a first board CNTS mounted with a first connector CNT which allows inputting of video data to be displayed on the display panel from an external device and which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS, and a second board TCNS mounted with a display control circuit TCON which is connected to the display panel PNL and the first board CNTS and

which accepts the video data from the first connector CNT (e.g., via the male and female connectors cnt5 in Fig. 7B; claim 40). The first board CNTS and the second board TCNS are physically separated from each other. The second board TCNS is arranged to be brought into contact with a region of a back surface of the display panel PNL except for a display portion, and the first board CNTS is arranged to be brought into contact with a back surface of the frame member UFM.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of cited prior art references discloses, teaches or suggests applying such a first board CNTS “(1) physically separated from a second board mounted with a display control circuit TCON,” and (2) mounted with a first connector CNT which allows inputting of video data to be displayed on the display panel from an external device and which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS” as does the present invention.

In contrast, the alleged first connector 4a in Fukuta (p. 3, lines 1-2 of the outstanding Office Action) is arranged on a back surface of the second board 15 (Fig. 1), rather than on a back surface of the first board 3. In addition, Fukuta’s semiconductor element 6 serves as a liquid crystal driver integrated circuit IC of the liquid crystal driver 2 (col. 5, lines 10-16) such that the external connection terminal 4a in Fukuta merely transmits signals from the liquid crystal driver 2 mounted on the first board 3 to the second board 15, but NOT transmitting video data from an external device to the semiconductor element 6. As shown in Fig. 1, Fukuta’s external connection terminal 4a simply does not transmit video data from an external device *into* the semiconductor element 6. As admitted by the Examiner (p. 4, lines 1-3 of the outstanding Office Action), Fukuta fails to provide such a “first connector CNT which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS” as in the present invention.

In addition, the Examiner also admitted (p. 11, lines 1-3 of the outstanding Office Action) that Terao fails to provide such a “first connector CNT which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS” as in the present invention.

Terada was relied upon by the Examiner to provide such a first connector. However, Terada’s connector 60/13 (Fig. (b)/Fig. 2(b)) was provide on a multi-probe unit (Abstract) for inspecting a liquid crystal display (col. 1, lines 11-13), rather than on a “flat panel display device it self, which has a display panel PNL which is shaped as a rectangular board” as the first connector CNT of the present invention. In addition, Terada’s connector 60/13 merely input inspecting signals, rather than any “video data to be displayed on the display panel” as the first connector CNT of the present invention. As admitted by the Examiner, one skilled would only be motivated to incorporate Terada’s connector 60/13 into Fukuta or Terada to

“inspect the LCD” (p. 4, line 12 of the outstanding Office Action). Applicants would contend that no one of ordinary skills in the art would use Terada’s connector 60/13 to input video data to be displayed on the display panel as the first connector CNT of the present invention.

Winstead’s connector 50 (Fig. 2) is a dual function connector for a cellophane (Title; abstract) and Colton’s connector 48a (Fig. 2) is a connector between electrical components 50 of a computer board to an external device (col. 5, lines 44-46; Title; Abstract), such that they share the same deficiencies as Terada’s connector 60/13 of a multi-probe unit. They are neither provided in a “flat panel display device,” nor input “video data to be displayed on the display panel.”

As to Chang, the connector 23 is provided on a display device; however, the signal input end 23 is a part of the flexible PCS 23 for mounting a driving IC 3 (Fig. 2; Abstract). Chang’s board for the connectors and the board for a display control circuit are the same, rather than different as those of the present invention. As such, Chang’s connector 23 for inputting video data to be displayed on the display panel from an external device is arranged on a back surface of a second board mounted with a display control circuit, rather than “on a back surface of a first board physically separated from the second board” as the first connector CNT of the present invention.

Applicants further contend that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to rearrange Chang’s connector 23 to meet the terms of the claims, since doing so will complicate the design which directly goes against the asserted motivation to combine Chang into Fukuta or Terao: “for simplifying the production of the display device and reducing the production step, labor, cost and contamination in the material process (p. 9, lines 14-15 of the outstanding Office Action).”

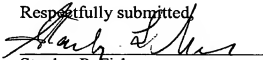
Applicants contend that the cited prior art references and their combinations fail to teach or disclose each and every feature of the present invention as recited in at least independent claim 2. As such, the present invention as now claimed is distinguishable and thereby allowable over the rejections raised in the Office Action. The withdrawal of the outstanding prior art rejections is in order, and is respectfully solicited.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicant respectfully contends that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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